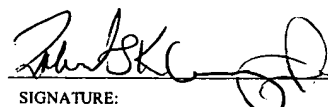


FORM PTO-1390 (REV 12-29-99)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER  <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em;">1461 US/PCT</div>	
<b>TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371</b>				U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5) <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">10/576999</div>	
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/US2004/036718		INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 03 NOVEMBER 2004		PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 03 NOVEMBER 2003	
TITLE OF INVENTION <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">RIPPLED SURFACE STOPPER ROD SYSTEM</div>					
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US <div style="text-align: center;">RICHAUD et al.</div>					
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:					
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>FIRST</b> submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>SECOND</b> or <b>SUBSEQUENT</b> submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1).</li> <li>4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.</li> <li>5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).</li> <li>b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been transmitted by the International Bureau.</li> <li>c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).</li> <li>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).</li> <li>b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been transmitted by the International Bureau.</li> <li>c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.</li> <li>d. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made.</li> </ol> </li> <li>8. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).</li> <li>9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).</li> <li>10. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).</li> </ol>					
<b>Items 11. to 16. below concern document(s) or information included:</b>					
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.</li> <li>12. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.</li> <li>13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A FIRST preliminary amendment.  <input type="checkbox"/> A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment.</li> <li>14. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification.</li> <li>15. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.</li> <li>16. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information:           <div style="margin-left: 20px;">             Return Receipt Postcard              Certificate of Express Mailing              Power of Attorney Document              A Copy of the Application as Originally Filed              A Copy of the PCT Publication and Search Report              A Copy of the PCT International Preliminary Examination Report           </div> </li> </ol>					

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.53) <b>10/576999</b>		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/US2004/036718		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 1461 US/PCT	
17. <input type="checkbox"/> The following fees are submitted: <b>BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (1) - (5)) :</b> Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO ..... \$970.00 International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO ..... \$840.00 International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO ..... \$690.00 International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) but all claims did not satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) ..... \$670.00 International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) ..... \$96.00 <b>ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =</b>				CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY	
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).				\$	950.00
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE		
Total claims	- 20 =		X \$18.00	\$	
Independent claims	- 3 =		X \$78.00	\$	
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)			+ \$260.00	\$	
<b>TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =</b>				\$	950.00
Reduction of 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable. A Small Entity Statement must also be filed (Note 37 CFR 1.9, 1.27, 1.28).				\$	
<b>SUBTOTAL =</b>				\$	950.00
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).				\$	
<b>TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =</b>				\$	950.00
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property				\$	40.00
<b>TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =</b>				\$	990.00
				Amount to be refunded:	\$
				charged:	\$
a. <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$_____ to cover the above fees is enclosed.  b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. <u>220281</u> in the amount of \$ <u>990.00</u> to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>220281</u> . A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
<b>NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.</b>					
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: <b>VESUVIUS USA</b> <b>ATTN: ROBERT S. KLEMZ, JR.</b> <b>250 PARK WEST DRIVE</b> <b>PITTSBURGH, PA 15275</b>					
 SIGNATURE: <u>Robert S. Klemz, Jr.</u> NAME <u>46305</u> REGISTRATION NUMBER					

10/576999

IAP15 Rec'd PCT/PTO 25 APR 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	)	<b>RICHAUD et al.</b>
	)	
Title	)	RIPPLED SURFACE STOPPER
	)	ROD SYSTEM
	)	
Attorney Docket No.	)	1461 US/PCT

To: Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop PCT  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

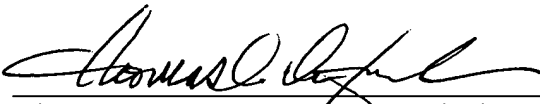
Express Mail Certificate

Date of Deposit: APRIL 25, 2006

To: Commissioner for Patents

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated above and was addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop PCT, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Express Mail number ER678948292 US

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of person mailing correspondence

Thomas C. Dunford  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of person mailing correspondence